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State of Connecticut  
Department of Higher Education

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**Testimony by the Connecticut Department of Higher Education  
Before the Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee  
1:30 P.M. – LOB Room 2A  
February 18, 2010**

**Raised House Bill 5025 An Act Concerning A Green Technology, Life Science and Health Information Technology Jobs Loan Forgiveness Program**

The Department of Higher Education is pleased to support HB 5025: An Act Concerning A Green Technology, Life Science and Health Information Technology Jobs Loan Forgiveness Program.

We applaud the Governor's proposal which addresses two critical needs for creating new educational curriculum, and for stimulating economic development in emerging fields of green technology. Today's economy demands both for Connecticut to create new and meaningful employment opportunities for our citizens. As with the Department's most recent loan forgiveness programs – the You Belong in Connecticut Loan Reimbursement Program and the Connecticut Engineering Loan Reimbursement Program – this program will attract students to new fields of study and encourage them to stay in Connecticut after graduation. This program wisely builds upon the federal government's recent focus on the creation of both green economic investments and new green jobs.

On behalf of our colleges and universities, both public and independent, we very much support this proposal's involvement of higher education in stimulating economic development, and we look forward to working on it with members of the Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee.